SAM Release Notes
Fast Path 2016-12-22

December 22, 2016

Change Log

Version #	Date of Change	Section	Description of Change	Changed By
1	12/08/2016	All	Initial Draft	IBM
2	12/16/2016	Release Notes	Incorporate GSA Changes	IBM

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Overview

With each software release, we work to improve the System for Award Management (SAM) user experience, improve the quality of information available from SAM, and reduce the burden for those wishing to do business with the U.S. Federal government. We do this through a combination of minor enhancements and fixing known issues. This document summarizes the customer-facing changes that were made to the SAM application and database in the development window culminating in the build to production on December 22, 2016.

Release Notes

Description	Reference IDs
Accessibility Enhancements	
Enhanced global search field in the main navigation menu to display the input text on page load. The input text is an additional visual indicator to help users understand field functionality. The input text will read "Search" and be displayed until users enter a search term improving usability.	32097
Tagged all tables used for presentation purposes only with the presentation role ("role = presentation"). Screen reader software will no longer encounter these as tables when navigating to a page. This will ensure that users relying on screen readers are able to easily reach the page content improving usability.	32094
Service Contract Reporting	
Updated application property to ensure that Fiscal Year 2016 Service Contract Reporting remains available until 1/31/2017 allowing for regulatory compliance.	32490
Exclusions Management	
Updated the logic for deleting exclusions records. Once an Agency Exclusion Administrator deletes an exclusion record, it cannot be reinstated, it will not be returned in Search, or seen on the 'My Exclusions' page. This update also ensures deleted exclusions are not displayed under the Inactive Exclusions link via the Search Records path.	32438

Manage Entity Core Data	
Added distinct and updated page titles to the Predecessors Details and Ownership Details pages increasing usability.	28624
Manage Entity Reps & Certs	
Updated the page description sections on FAR Response 1 - 4 pages to indicate that all enabled fields are mandatory. Users will encounter the instructions prior to reaching the page content so they will know to answer all questions/fields on the page increasing usability.	28549
Site-Wide	
Updated page navigation order within the Help > Exclusions Information section. Exclusions Information will now start with Exclusion Types, then Legacy CT Codes, and finally Agency Exclusion POCs. Reordering the pages presents the information in a more intuitive sequence.	32100
Updated html mark up to remove unnecessary tags that may pose challenges to screen reader software improving accessibility.	32099
Made Skip to Errors link visible on the page when activated. This will be consistent with the behavior of the Skip Navigation link improving accessibility.	32098
Improved focus indicator so that it remains visible on all expandable controls. Expandable sections of the sub-navigation menu will still be high-lighted in dark blue but will also display a dotted outline to indicate focus improving accessibility.	32095
Updated pages to have unique and appropriate page titles as well as a consistent Heading Level 1-5 structure improving accessibility.	32092